

From: Asbury Lenny-LASBURY1
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/11/01 2:47pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have tried to remain current on the provisions of the Microsoft Settlement of the Anti-Trust/Monopoly case.

I do not entirely agree with the decision of the court, specifically, I do not feel that there was a preponderance of evidence that showed Microsoft to have a monopoly, or to have abused a position of dominance in the software market.

Regardless, the proposed remedies in the settlement do not appear to be excessively damaging to Microsoft, or the software community at large. The distribution of software to students and educational institutions by Microsoft has always been the cornerstone of my argument that Microsoft had NEVER abused their position.

Specifically, Microsoft has always made software available to educational institutions at substantial discounts off the list price. As a former university student, I have obtained thousands of dollars of software from Microsoft at a small fraction of the advertised cost.

I feel that the requirement for Microsoft to distribute software materials to the educational community as the specified remedy in this case is entirely appropriate. It expands a behavior that Microsoft has continuously shown to be part of the Microsoft corporate culture. Instead of receiving these materials at percentage discounts off the list price, the poorest and most needy communities will receive these valuable materials at 100% off the list price.

I have never worked for Microsoft. I work for Motorola. My current employer has gained valuable expertise and skills from the discounted materials that Microsoft made available to me when I was a student.

I feel certain that the entire US economy will benefit greatly from the free distribution of software from Microsoft to the educational community. This is a settlement with incalculable value to America, because it extends the skills of our future workforce.

I whole-heartedly support this settlement.

Len Asbury, CQA, CSQE
Quality Systems Technician
(817) 245-7443
RAB QMS Internal Auditor N0817741

